THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No project proposals have been received from the State Government of Punjab in the current Financial Year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Access of tourists in North-East

405. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to restrictions, tourists are not allowed to access several States in the north-eastern India;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating principal reasons for imposing such restrictions;

(c) whether Government have decided to promote tourism in the North-East by lifting curbs in restricted areas for tourists;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the basis, on which, the curbs are being lifted?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These restrictions are on account of various reasons such as proximity to international borders, law and order situation etc.

(c) to (e) The review of restrictions is a continuous process and is undertaken by the Ministry of Home Affairs on receipt of proposals from the concerned States and in consultation with the security agencies.

Heritage places in Rajasthan

†406. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the action being taken by the Central Government at its own level or in collaboration with the State Government towards the development of tourist and heritage places in Rajasthan; and

(b) the details of amount spent during the last three years in this regard, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under schemes for Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations/Circuits and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.